

NEW APPLICATION
ORIGINAL



City of Phoenix
STREET TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT DIVISION



0000101343

July 22, 2009

2009 JUL 27 P 4: 27

AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

Arizona Corporation Commission

DOCKETED

JUL 27 2009

Arizona Corporation Commission
Brian Lehman
Railroad Safety Supervisor
Railroad Safety Section
2200 N. Central Ave., Suite # 300
Phoenix, Arizona 85004

DOCKETED BY	NR
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Re: Approval for Permanent Closure of East-Side 1st Avenue Railroad Pedestrian Crossing.

RR-03639A-09-0373

Dear Mr. Lehman,

The City of Phoenix conducted a diagnostic review of the railroad crossings in our downtown area on June 10, 2009. During the review, the pedestrian crossings at 1st Avenue were identified as redundant, as there are two crossings, one on each side of the 1st Avenue underpass, less than 100 feet apart. Additionally, they are a liability and maintenance issue for all parties concerned.

Due to pedestrian crossing redundancy, liability and maintenance issues, the City is seeking Commission approval to permanently close and remove the east pedestrian crossing at 1st Avenue and the Union Pacific tracks. The east pedestrian crossing was identified for removal as there are no existing businesses on either side of the railroad tracks. Therefore, the City feels the closure of the east pedestrian crossing would not affect any adjacent business access or operations.

Concurrent to the east pedestrian crossing removal, the City will be installing new safety improvements to the west pedestrian crossing to the north and south of the tracks. The new safety improvements include fencing along the railroad right of way to channel pedestrians to the west sidewalk crossing, zigzag gates to force pedestrians to look both ways to before crossing the tracks and installation of "LOOK" signs with arrows pointing in both directions as you approach the crossing.

The Union Pacific Railroad which owns and operates the rail line in our downtown and the Federal Railroad Administration both support the permanent closure of the east pedestrian crossing and the safety improvements to the west pedestrian crossing. The City would like the same support and approval from the Arizona Corporation Commission to permanently close the east pedestrian crossing and make permanent safety improvements to the west pedestrian crossing at 1st Avenue.

Please let me know if you need additional information regarding the proposed closure and safety improvements to the pedestrian crossings at 1st Avenue in order to obtain Commission approval to proceed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Syd Anderson', with a stylized, cursive script.

Syd Anderson, P.E.
Engineering Supervisor
City of Phoenix
Street Transportation Department

c: Aziz Aman, Union Pacific Railroad
Rob Cox, City of Phoenix Community and Economic Development Department
Dan Klocke, Downtown Phoenix Partnership
Charlie Hagood, Federal Railroad Administration
Mark Glock, City of Phoenix Street Transportation Department
Belinda Cummings, City of Phoenix Street Transportation Department